

Cedar River Anadromous Fish Committee

Summary Minutes

April 15, 2004

Meeting Time 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Meeting Location:

**Metering Building, Second Floor Conference Room
SPU Operations Control Center
2700 Airport Way South
Seattle, WA**

Members and Alternates Present: *Bruce Bachen (SPU), Frank Urabeck (Trout Unlimited), Sam Wright (WA Trout), Steve Foley (WDFW), Hans Berge (KC), Tim Romanski (USFWS), Chuck Wischman (PSA), Phyllis Meyers (NMFS), Michael Kern (LLTK), Bill Robinson*

Other Participants: *Brodie Antipa, Dave Seiler, Chuck Johnson (WDFW), Judith Noble and Paul Faulds (SPU)*

I) Call to order

Bruce Bachen called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM

II) Approval of agenda

The order of the agenda was revised. Sam requested adding a discussion of passing clipped fish above the Landsburg. Phyllis suggested adding this item under the section covering the interim program. Members unanimously approved the revised agenda.

III) Meeting minutes review and approval from February 19, 2004

The AFC unanimously approved the meeting minutes from February 19, 2004 following some minor changes.

IV) Sockeye monitoring and research

Dave Beauchamp provided the AFC with a PowerPoint presentation on the growth, distribution and abundance of pelagic fishes in Lake Washington

Dave stated the main objectives of the study are to provide an assessment of the spring sockeye presmolt population, a fall assessment of the sockeye, smelt, and sticklebacks (following the first growing season), to index the survival and growth performance of these populations, and to identify the role of each species as both a competitor and predation buffer for juvenile salmon. He presented information on the data collection methods, sampling equipment, and sampling locations in Lake Washington as well as the results from the fall of 2001 through spring of 2003.

V) Interim mitigation program for coho, chinook and steelhead

Discussion of passage of hatchery fish above Landsburg (added item)

Phyllis noted that she had been asked to explore the development of a proposal to evaluate the long-term effects of passing hatchery and naturally produced chinook above the Landsburg Dam on the Cedar River.

Update on SPU budgets and funding level for interim proposals

SPU staff provided members with a number of handouts for this section including a section of the LMA, HCP Guidelines, prioritized interim projects from 2002, the interim program budget, and a paper on predation by Roger Tabor.

Members also discussed sending a letter to the City to protect carry over funding for future projects. Frank argued that the funding from previous years needs to be identified for specific years (i.e., 2005-2008).

Confirm and/or revise interim program priorities established in 2002

There was a brief discussion as to the need for revising the priorities of the interim program. Bruce noted the main focus of the AFC in 2002 was steelhead.

Establish proposal and review process for 2005 funding

The AFC identified the following timeline for developing and reviewing interim program proposals.

- *May 2004 begin development of interim program questions.*
- *October 2004 release RFP*
- *January 2005 review proposals with principal investigators*
- *February 2005 AFC approves funding recommendations to LMA Parties*

VI) Sockeye Hatchery

Update on project and Supplemental EIS development

Judith Noble joined the meeting and provided members with an update on the SEIS development and the worst case analysis workshop.

VII) Public comment

There were no public comments.

VIII) Information and discussion Items

Fish Passage at Landsburg

Paul provided members with an update on the fish ladder improvements and the status of the fish camera/counter.

Forebay cleaning fish data

Bruce provided members with a description of the forebay cleaning operation, which took place on March 3, 2004, and the fish recovery operation. Paul provided members with a table that displayed the fish data from the forebay cleaning.

Status report on Cedar River Hatchery

Brodie noted the hatchery was finished releasing fry for the season and the last release brought the total up to 9,916,000.

Cedar River steelhead

Steve said there were weekly surveys being conducted on the Cedar R. and so far eight steelhead redds were counted.

Fry trapping report

Dave S. stated that based on the fry trap counts so far, this would be a record year for sockeye fry production in the Cedar River. Hans pointed out this was pretty remarkable considering the escapement was about ½ of what was expected. Dave S. said higher flows during spawning could have distributed adult sockeye differently in the river. He added the highest number captured in a single night was 140,000 fry. He estimated that natural production was over 41 million.

Lake Washington Pelagic Fish Assessment Survey Spring 2004

Bruce noted Dave Beauchamp completed the spring survey.

IX) Adjournment 1:15

The AFC meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM.